brought out in the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India and to take steps to avoid the recurrence of such deficiencies.

[English]

CONSUMPTION OF PETROL AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

1515. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been stressed on Government Departments to economise consumption of petrol and petroleum products;

(b) if so, whether any assessment, Ministry/Department-wise, has been made about the realistic reduction made in consumption of these products;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure optimum use of petrol and petroleum products, enforce strict control over use of staff cars for office use only, pooling staff cars instead of providing cars to individual officers upto the status of Joint Secretary and equivalent and stop the use of air-conditioned cars by officials ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE) (a) to (d) : Yes, Sir. Instructions have been issued from time to time stressing upon the Ministries/Departments of the Government the need for economising the consumption of petrol/diesel and the measures to be adopted to achieve such economy.

Government had issued instructions in June, 1990 that the consumption of petrol/diesel in Government vehicles including staff cars should be reduced by 20% over the consumption during 1989-90. Instructions were also issued in August, 1990 prohibiting the use of Government vehicles including staff cars except deployment of Government vehicles for emergency and unavoidable operational duties, on Sundays. Orders were issued banning the purchase of vehicles until further orders.

The consumption of petrol/diesel is being continuously monitored on the basis of the monthly reports received from the Ministries/Departments. It is seen from the information received that the consumption of petrol/diesel has reduced in some Government organisations. However, it is not possible to quantify the exact reduction achieved so far.

There is no provision in the Staff Car Rules for earmarking a vehicle exclusively for the use of any individual officer. Instructions have been reiterated that two or more Government officers should travel in the same staff car to the extent possible instead of travelling separately. Instructions have also been issued restraining the use of public sector vehicles by Government officials.

Use of air-conditioned vehicles by Government officials is banned.

PRIVATE BUSES UNDER D.T.C. OPERATION

1516. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi Transport Corporation has allowed private buses under its operation to ply on 'Earn and Carry' basis;

(b) the terms of the agreement for private buses operated under D.T.C. during last year; and

(c) the present terms and conditions and when these were negotiated ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) (a) to (c) : Private buses are plying under DTC under the 'Earn and keep' Scheme since 1988. Under this arrangement, the buses of private operators are allowed to charge DTC fares and retain the earnings. The private buses are to carry the DTC Pass holding passengers free of charge in their buses for which they are compensated. These operators operate in accordance with the schedule prescribed by DTC, who control and maintain these operations. Whenever any irregularity is detected, the DTC not only

instruct the private operators to ensure operations as per schedule but also strict action is taken, including levy of penalties, depending upon the nature of the irregularity.

The present terms and conditions for these buses remain the same.

TRADE AGREEMENTS

1517. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of trade agreements signed by the Government with various countries during the last six months; and

(b) the number and details of those agreements which are under the barter system ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) (a) and (b) : The Government signed the following agreements during the last six months :

(i) Trade and Payments agreement between the Republic of India and the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic signed at Prague on 17th January, 1991.

(ii) Trade and Payments Agreement between the Government of Republic of India and the Government of Romania signed in Bucharest on 25th July, 1991.

These agreements provide for trade in non-convertible Indian Rupees on a balanced basis.

SHOWROOMS OF NTC

1518. DR C. SILVERA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Texile Corporation has set up showrooms in various States for sale of its products;

(b) if so, the locations of these showrooms State/Union Territory-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up some more such showrooms; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) (a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement showing the locations of NTC Showrooms in the Country, is enclosed.

(c) and (d) The decision regarding opening of new Showrooms is taken by the NTC, based on commercial viability.

STATEMENT

SUBSIDIARY : NTC (APKKM) LTD. BANGALORE NO. OF SHOWROOMS : 25
DIVISION : HYDERABAD

STATE : ANDHRA PRADESH

S. No.	Showroom	District
1.	159, Gunfoundary Rd. Hyderabad	Hyderabad
2.	Bank St. Hyderabad	Do.
3.	Nampally	Do.
4.	Chikkadpally	Do.
5.	D.d.-Kancham Bag, Hyderabad	Ranga Reddy
6.	Trimulgherry, Secunderabad	Hyderabad
7.	Guntur	Guntur
8.	Vijaiwada	Krishna
9.	Musalipatnam	Do.